

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY CU:JEBECKER:MM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 039039

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY RICHARDSON FROM HITCHCOCK

E.O. 11652:N/A TAGS: OTRA

SUBJECT:STATEMENT BEFORE HOUSE AUTHORIZATION (HAYS) COMMITTEE

1. M REQUIRES FINAL DRAFT OF YOUR STATEMENT BEFORE HAYS COMMITTEE NO LATER THAN COB THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19. TEXT FOLLOWS FOR YOUR APPROVAL. PLEASE NOTIFY US OF ANY DESIRED CHANGES.

2. TEXT: STATEMENT OF JOHN RICHARDSON, JR. BEFORE HOUSE AUTHORIZATION SUBCOMMITTEE:

A. MY NAME IS JOHN RICHARDSON, JR. I HAVE SERVED AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS SINCE 1969. BEFORE THAT, I HAD BEEN A LAWYER, INVESTMENT BANKER AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF RADIO FREE EUROPE. I VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY AGAIN BEFORE THIS COMMITTEE.

B. MR. CHAIRMAN, WE ARE REQUESTING \$58.5 MILLION OF NEW OBLIGATION AUTHORITY UNDER THE MECEA APPROPRIATION. THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF APPROXIMATELY \$4 MILLION OVER FY 1976. OUR ESTIMATE OF INFLATIONARY COSTS IN FY 1977 IS IN EXCESS OF \$4 MILLION. THUS, OUR BUDGET DOES NOTREPRE-
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SENTANYPROGRAM LEVEL INCREASE.

C. WE ARE PRESENTING A BUDGET WHICH REFLECTS THE PRESIDENT'S DESIRE FOR FISCAL RESTRAINT. HOWEVER, WE FULLY INTEND TO CARRY OUT OUR PROGRAMS IN FY 1977 IN SUCH A WAY THAT BOTH THEIR QUALITY AND IMPACT WILL BE IMPROVED. WE WILL MEET POLICY REQUIREMENTS IN NEW AND HIGH PRIORITY AREAS BY MAKING CORRESPONDING CUTS IN PROGRAMS OF LESSER PRIORITY. WE WILL DEVOTE INCREASED ATTENTION TO MAKING MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS AND TO COST EFFECTIVENESS. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO EXTEND THE IMPACT OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BY AN INCREASED EFFORT TO ENLIST THE SUPPORT OF PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES. WE THEREBY HOPE TO ACQUIRE ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL AND VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE TO OUR PROGRAMS AS WELL AS TO PROVIDE STIMULATION, GUIDANCE AND ASSISTANCE TO THESE ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS ENGAGED IN THE EXCHANGE PROCESS.

D. WE WILL STRETCH OUR DOLLARS IN EVERY CONCEIVABLE WAY TO MEET THE INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS THROUGH BETTER HUMAN COMMUNICATIONS. BUT WE NEED EVERY PENNY WE ARE ASKING FOR IN ORDER TO DO THIS.

E. WE NEED TO RESPOND TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICA, IN LATIN AMERICA, AND IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WE NEED TO MAINTAIN THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE IN RECENT YEARS IN OUR PROGRAMS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA. WE NEED TO RESPOND TO EVER-INCREASING NEED FOR CONSULTATION, COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN LEADERSHIP GROUPS IN THE UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES IN SUCH CRITICAL FIELDS AS INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS, ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, FOOD, POPULATION, DRUGS, AND URBAN AFFAIRS-

F. MR. CHAIRMAN, THROUGH THE JUDICIOUS USE OF THE TAXPAYERS' MONEY, WE BELIEVE WE CAN ADVANCE THE TAXPAYERS' INTERESTS, WHETHER THEY ARE IN A BUSINESS OR A PROFESSION, WHETHER THEY REPRESENT MANAGEMENT OR LABOR, THROUGH PROGRAMS WHICH EXPRESS BASIC AMERICAN VALUES (FREEDOM, DIVERSITY, DEMOCRACY, PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY, RULE OF LAW) AND THROUGH PROGRAMS WHICH OPEN DOORS AND IMPROVE THE CLIMATE FOR NEGOTIATION, ACCOMMODATION, AND COOPERATION.

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G. AS YOU KNOW, MR. CHAIRMAN, THE EAST-WEST CENTER IS ALSO SUPPORTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE UNDER A SEPARATE APPROPRIATION. THE CENTER SHARES THE SAME OBJECTIVES I

HAVE OUTLINED ABOVE WITH RESPECT TO BUILDING BETTER RELATIONS AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE NATIONS OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC THROUGH COOPERATIVE STUDY, TRAINING AND RESEARCH. WE ARE REQUESTING \$10 MILLION FOR THE CENTER IN FY 1977, AN INCREASE TO COVER ESTIMATED MANDATORY INCREASES OF \$1 MILLION.

H. MR. CHAIRMAN, WE BELIEVE WE CARRY OUT USEFUL PROGRAMS EFFECTIVELY, PROGRAMS WHICH CONTRIBUTE IN A MAJOR WAY TO THE INTERESTS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND OUR GOVERNMENT. WE HOPE YOU WILL CONTINUE TO GIVE THEM YOUR FULL SUPPORT. INGERSOLL

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